

06-03-04

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Dkt. No. 46505/5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Francis M. Claessens et al.
Appl. No. : 10/779,517
Filed : February 13, 2004
For : APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONICALLY DETERMINING
WHETHER A TAX FOR A PRODUCT HAS BEEN PAID
Art Unit : 2821

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R § 1.97(b)(3)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

EL994296567US

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a list of references cited by Applicants ("PTO Form 1449") and a copy of each document listed therein. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the enclosed list and indicate his consideration thereof by initialing the enclosed PTO Form 1449 and returning a copy of the initialed form to Applicants' undersigned attorney.

It is noted that two references, identified as citation numbers 25 and 26 are in the French language. These two references include the same disclosure, as no. 26 claims priority from no. 25. Attached to this communication is a printout from the Delphion listing for no. 26 which includes an English language abstract for the disclosure therein. This abstract provides an explanation of the relevance of citation nos. 25 and 26, as presently understood by the applicants.

Applicants: Francis M. Claessens et al.
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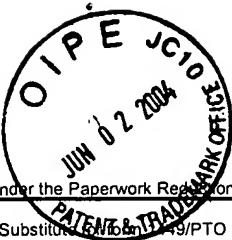
No fees are believed necessary for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, which is believed to have been filed prior to the issuance of the first Office Action in the above referenced application. However, if any fees are due, please debit Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Respectfully submitted,

AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN LLP
Attorneys for Applicants
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Dated: June 2, 2004
New York, New York

By 
John S. Economou, Reg. No. 38,439



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute Form 1519/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/779,517
Filing Date	February 13, 2004
First Named Inventor	Francis M. Claessens
Art Unit	2821
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	46505/5

Sheet 1 of 6

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 6,641,052 B2	11-04-2003	Baillo et al.	
	2	US- 6,556,139 B2	04-29-2003	Manov et al.	
	3	US- 6,549,131 B1	04-15-2003	Cote et al.	
	4	US- 6,501,435 B1	12-31-2002	King et al.	
	5	US- 6,483,473 B1	11-19-2002	King et al.	
	6	US- 6,271,753 B1	08-07-2001	Shukla	
	7	US- 6,226,619 B1	05-01-2001	Halperin et al.	
	8	US- 6,255,948 B1	07-03-2001	Wolpert et al.	
	9	US- 6,162,550	12-19-2000	Pinchen et al.	
	10	US- 6,137,413	10-24-2000	Ryan, Jr.	
	11	US- 6,069,955	05-30-2000	Coppersmith et al.	
	12	US- 6,050,622	04-18-2000	Gustafson	
	13	US- 6,031,457	02-29-2000	Bonkowski et al.	
	14	US- 5,953,682	09-14-1999	McCarrick et al.	
	15	US- 5,887,176	03-23-1999	Griffith et al.	
	16	US- 5,880,675	03-09-1999	Trautner	
	17	US- 5,850,186	12-15-1998	Min	
	18	US- 5,786,626	07-28-1998	Brady et al.	
	19	US- 5,602,530	02-11-1997	Holmgren	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Filing Date	February 13, 2004
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	25	FR 2 703 659 A1	10-14-1994	Manufacture Lyonnaise		
				Bouchage - FR		
	26	EP 0 619 243 B1	10-12-1994	Manufacture Lyonnaise		
				de Bouchage Societe		
				Anonyme		
	27	WO 03/023706	03-20-2003	Alcoa Closure Systems International, Inc.		

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	28	WO 03/023705 A1 ✓	03/20/2003	Alcoa Closure Systems International, Inc.		
	29	WO 00/54724 ✓	09-21-2000	Molteni L. E. C. Dei Fratelli Alitti Societa' Di Esercizio S.P.A.		

Examiner
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Date	
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	39	JP 2002185358 A	06-28-2002	Supersensor PTY Ltd.	Abstract	
	40	JP 2002181296 A	06-26-2002	Hanex Co. Ltd.	Abstract	
	41	WO 02/13135 A2	02-14-2002	Hei, Inc.		
	42	WO 02/095671 A1	11-28-2002	Alcoa Closure Systems		
				International, Inc.		

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				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	46505/5
Sheet	6	of	6		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	43	WHISKY NEWS - The Latest Scotch Whisky Industry News, January 2004 News at www.scotchwhisky.net/news/index.php , pps. 1-7. ✓	
	44	TOMLINSON, HEATHER, entitled "Spirits firms fight bottle-stamp plan," Guardian Unlimited, December 11, 2003 at www.guardian.co.uk/budget2004/story/0.14063.1104532.00.html , pps. 1-2. ✓	
	45	THE COURIER - entitled "No evidence whisky fraud is widespread," January 16, 2004 at www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2004/01/16/newsstory553366310.asp . ✓	
	46	ANDY'S SCRIBBINGS WINE & DRINK NEWSLETTER - Issue 165, January 22, 2004 at www.andys-scribbings.co.uk/oldScribbings/As165.htm , p. 2 of 3. ✓	
	47	SUNDAY HERALD - entitled "Why Chancellor's charm is beginning to wear thin," Decmeber 14, 2003 at www.sundayherald.com/print38613 , pps. 1-2. ✓	
	48	HARPERS - entitled "Trade searches for 'tax stamps' alternative," January 9, 2004, p. 5. ✓	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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